Vol. III. Numb. 68.

THE OBSERVATOR.

The Country-man *declines Speaking of Publick News. Remarks on the Lord* Haverſham's *Speech. Of the State of Trade in* England.

From Wednesday December the 6th, to Saturday December the 9th, 1704.

Obſ. HOneſt *Country-man*, haſt got any News? We ha'nt talk'd on that Subject for a long time.

Country-m. Nor is it any matter whether ever we Talk of it more; I love Fighting Stories with all my Heart: But if we don't make our Fighters Battles the ſharpeſt that ever were ſeen, then we are *Infidels* in not believing the Merits of our *Commanders*; and if we do, we lie to *this* preſent Age, and belie our Brave and Worthy *Progenitors*.

I could tell you a Story, from *Gibraltar*, how a *Prophecy* of yours is likely to be fulfill'd at that Place; I can tell you of a great *Fraud*, &c. and ſhould I tell you of this, you can't help *Cackling*, and then comes another *Information* in the *Crown-Office*, and then my *Wheat* muſt go to Market to raiſe *Money*. Now, had not you better let alone talking of *News*, of *Officers*, of *Knaves* and *Fools*, of *Publick Cheats*, and *Cowardly Officers*? If a *Commander* makes a *Preſent* of a *Man of War* to his little Maſter at St. *Germains*, what's that to you? You ſay that *Beaux* and *Bullies* are not fit to Command our Shipping; but if others are of the contrary Opinion, hold your Tongue, can't you? If our *Sea Commanders* Fight, or don't Fight; do you commend 'em; Learn the Art of *Tricking*; you ſee how ſome People Thrive upon it. Give 'em good *Language*, and great *Titles*: I hope you have as good an *Authority* to make *Lords* and *Dukes*, as the *Gazeteer* has to make an *Arch-Biſhop* of *Lincoln*.

Obſ. No, no, that Perſon has Authority to Write *Nonſence*. But if you won't talk of *News*, what muſt us talk of then?

Country-m. Talk of ſomething that is for the Good of your *Country*, tending to Open the Eyes of the *Blind* and *Ignorant*.

Obſ. That's the Quarrel againſt me. If I open the *Eyes* of my *Country-men*, my *Eyes* muſt be put out for the ſame.

Country-m. Bleſs me! What ſhall we talk of then? Here's an excellent True *Engliſh* Speech of that Noble Patriot, the Lord *Haverſham*, ſpoken in the *Houſe of Peers*, the 23*d* of *Nov.* laſt. Will you talk of that?

Obſ. It's a True *Engliſh* Speech indeed; but there is difference betwixt Speaking *within-Doors* and Speaking *without Doors*.

Country-m. Why, the *Papiſts* and *Jacobites* ſpeak of it without-Doors. Here's the *Highlanders* Anſwer to my Lords Speech; Can't you make Remarks upon it as well as a *Highlander*?

Obſ. No, I can't: If I write in Vindication of the Queens Right to the Crown, I am Proſecuted: If the *Papiſts* and *Jacobites* write againſt it, they paſs with *Impunity*. There's abundance of odds in the Caſe now-a-days.

But this *Highlander* is a pretty Fellow; I hope he'll meet with more Reflections than from the *Obſervator* and his *Country-man*; *Ex Ungue Bubonem*, 'tis even *L——y* the *Perkinite*, is the valuable Author of this Libel; and tho' he is true *Iriſh* Breed, and Deſcended from a *Popiſh* Biſhop that Plotted againſt Queen *Elizabeth's* Life, in favour of the *Popiſh* and *Frenchify'd Scotch* Queen, he takes upon him the Title of a *Highlander*, and indeed he comes pretty near up to the Manners and Senſe of the Rabble of that Country. But let you and I leave him to the Chaſtiſement of thoſe that have the Power to Curb the Inſolence of an *Iriſh Nonjuring Perkinite Prieſt*.——What doſt obſerve in the Noble Speech of this Noble Lord?

Country-m. Obſerve, Quotha! I obſerve it all from Top to Bottom, from Stem to Stern: I can only bate you the Preamble, and then the next Paragraph is this,

And tho' our Succeſs at Sea was not equall to what it was at Land, yet the Engliſh *Courage and Bravery ſhew'd it ſelf the ſame. I cannot indeed Congratulate Sir* George Rook's Entire Victory *over the* French, *but I can, and do moſt heartily* His ſafe Deliverance from them, *and that with a Fleet ſo unprovided, and ſo weakened by five or ſix* Dutch *Ships being call'd Home a little before the Engagement, ſeems to me a Conſiderable piece of Service. To ſay more would look like Flattery, and to ſay leſs would be Unjuſt.*

What think you of this, Maſter *Obſervator*?

Obſ. I think I am clearly of his Lordſhip's Opinion in the Caſe.

Country-m. But your Remarks upon it; let's hear your Enlargement on the Text?

Obſ. Enlargement ſay'ſt thou, that's the way to bring me to Confinement. Doſt not thou know how much Truth I have ſpoken and written relating to our *Naval Affairs*, and that I am Proſecuted for the ſame? Prithee, Man, don't put me on Methods that may enhance the Reckoning.

Now my Reflections on the Publick Management of our *Naval Affairs*, have ever been with a Deſign to mend 'em, for the Good of the Queen and Realm; had it been for the Intereſt of *Perkin*, I might have paſs'd as well as others from Trouble.

Here's *Dyers* News Letter, of the 21*ſt* of *October*, tells us, Our *Seamen* grumble that they have not a Months Pay given as *Bounty-Money* for their Service in the late Engagement, as they had for that at *la Hogue*; which they ſay was not half

ſo

ſo Long, nor ſo Smart.—The latter part of this, tho' abominably falſe, will pleaſe ſome People well enough: But ſhould I ſay that our *Sailors* Grumble, tho' it were at *Stinking Beef* and *Pork*, it might Merrit a *Proſecution*.

Country-m. I find the Papers *Written* or *Printed* in the *Jacobite Cauſe* are all Shot free.

Obſ. In this very Letter of *Dyers*, he raiſes a Scandalous Report on the *Dutch*, as if they had not performed the Articles of their Alliance with *England*; a thing done in Prejudice to the *Confederacy*, and ſpread about the *Country* to Create *Animoſities*, and to ſupport the Spirits of the *Enemies* of *England*.

Country-m. Well, Maſter, I'll proceed with this Noble Lords Speech; *The* Navy *of* England, *its* Glory, *and its* Guard: *'Tis that which ſhould protect our* Trade, *and ſecure our* Coaſts. *Your Lordſhips were ſo ſenſible of this, that You recommended theſe two Heads to Her Majeſty, in two Addreſſes laſt Seſſions, full of Reſpect, and yet very Preſſing; but we have been ſo far from receiving the Fruits we expected from your Lordſhips Care, that whoever will but take a View of what was done laſt Summer, will ſee our* Coaſts *left Naked, and our* Trade *Expoſed. St.* Paul *Riding in the Channel, and our Merchants ſo far from being Protected, that even our* Men of War *Themſelves are Taken in our Soundings. And what ſharpens our* Misfortunes, *is to ſee our Enemies making Uſe of our own Ships againſt Us, and to be provided with their very* Naval Stores *from Us, as the Count* de Thoulouſe's *Squadron was, if an Eye Witneſs thereof, now at the Door, may be believ'd.* —— Maſter *Obſervator*, Here's abundance of *Weight* and *Truth* in this Paragraph.

Obſ. And therefore I ſhall be very particular in my Obſervations upon it. His Lordſhip, herein, Contradicts a Receiv'd Opinion among ſome People, That the Trade of *England* was never in a more Flouriſhing Condition than at preſent. But this Opinion being of not above three or four Weeks ſtanding, and ſeeming a *Paradox* at firſt view, its Foundation may be ſhaken with the more Eaſe.

To conſider our Trade aright, we muſt take a View of it in all its parts; we muſt enquire into the State of our Manufactures at Home, and what Proportion they bear now in Foreign Markets, with what they bore in former Times.

We muſt conſider the Point of our Navigation Abroad, in Reſpect to *Trade* and *Commerce*; what Proportion of Shipping in Trade we have now employed, to what we had in former Times, and what Proportion of Ships of War employ'd as Convoys, making an Allowance for Times of War and Peace.

The preſent State of the *Woollen-Manufacture*, in this place, ought to be nicely conſidered in relation to its Improvement or Decay. But theſe are weighty Heads, and require more than a *Tranſient View*, and therefore I ſhall take Time to inform you in the Particulars.

However, to thoſe that ſay the Trade of *England* was never in ſo good a Condition as at preſent, I can tell them, that in three or four Weeks, ſince the Advancement of that Notion, more Merchants and Traders have Retired into the *Mint* for Shelter from their Creditors, than has been known in three or four Years in former times; no good ſign of a Flouriſhing Trade.

Country-m. Maſter *Obſervator*, I find I have drawn you into a Profitable Diſcourſe: I Pray God preſerve you to finiſh it; and ſo I wiſh you a good Repoſe.

ALL *Perſons that have occaſion to Write or Send to the Author of this Paper, are deſired to direct to him at* Ives's, *the* Scotch *Coffee-Houſe, in* Bartholomew-Lane, *near the* Royal-Exchange.

Advertiſements.

WAſſe's Elixir for the Gout and Rheumatiſm; and Excellent for the Cholick, Stone, Gravel, and Ulcers in the Bladder and Kidneys; and is a ſure Remedy for the Dry Gripes in the Weſt-Indies. Experienced to the Benefit of all ſuch that has Taken it. Price Three Shillings the Half Pint, with Printed Directions. Sold at the Authors own Houſe in *Church Alley* in *Clements-Lane*, and J. How, at the ſeven ſtars in Talbot-Court in Grace-church-ſtreet, Wholeſale or Retail, and at the other Places mentioned in the former Obſervators.

A New Sheet Almanack, with the Picture of Queen *ANN*, curiouſly Engraven on a Copper Plate, with ſeveral Lively Figures ſignifying ſome of Her Majeſties *Inherent Vertues*. On Her Majeſties Right Hand is Repreſented *Wiſdom* and *Religion*; on her Left Hand *Juſtice* and *Moderation*, &c. Price 1 *s* 6 *d* in a *Frame*, and 6 *d* without. Sold by *Samuel Cope*, at the Cat and *Rain-Bow*, the Corner of *Grocers-Alley*, being the Paſſage to the Bank of *England*, in the *Poultrey*. Where is likewiſe to be had another New Sheet Almanack with King *William's* Head finely Engraven on a Copper Plate, ſupported by two Angels, and the *Trophies of War*: To which is added his Character. Price 1 *s* 6 *d*. and 6 *d* without. The Queen and King's Head being much finer *Engraved* than they were laſt Year. To both Almanacks is added, the Names of all Stage Coaches and Carriers, and what Day in the Week they go out, the Figures Painted in Water colours, Two Shillings in a Frame.

THE Hiſtory of *Non-Conformity*, as it was Argued and Stated by Commiſſioners on both ſides, in 1661. Containing, 1. Two Papers of Propoſals, concerning the Diſcipline and Ceremonies of the Church of *England*, Preſented to King *Charles* II. by the Presbyterian Miniſters. 2. Their Petition for Peace to the Biſhops. 3. Their Reformation of the Liturgy. 4. An Account of the Proceedings of the Commiſſioners of both ſides, for Reviewing the Book of Common-Prayer. With the Kings Commiſſion prefix'd. 5. The Exceptions of the Presbyterians againſt the Liturgy. 6. The Papers that paſs'd betwixt the Commiſſioners on both ſides, wherein the matter is Argued, Pro and Con. 7. A true Copy of the Diſputation at the Savoy, as managed by the Epiſcopal Divines, to prove that there's nothing Sinful in the Liturgy. 8. An Account of the Debate, and a Petition to the King, by the Presbyterian Miniſters, who were appointed Commiſſioners. 9. Arch-Biſhop *Uſher's* Reduction of Epiſcopacy, unto the Form of Synodical Government, Receiv'd in the Ancient Church: Which the Presbyterians offer'd to ſubmit to. 10. The Proceedings of Arch-Biſhop *Uſher*, the Biſhop of *Lincoln*, and ſome other Church of *England* Divines in 1641. Touching Innovations in the Doctrine and Diſcipline of the Church. With Conſiderations on the Common-Prayer Book, Refer'd to, in the Debate betwixt the Commiſſioners on both ſides. To which is Prefix'd a Preface Relating to Occaſional Conformity. Price 5 *s*.

ENgland's Happineſs conſider'd, in ſome Expedients: Viz. 1 *Of the Care of Religion.* 2 *Of Union amongſt all Proteſtants.* 3 *Of Reformation of Manners.* 4 *Of* Reſtraining *ſuch Perſons as are Enemies to the Chriſtian* Religion *in General, or to the Proteſtant* Religion *in Particular.* Humbly offer'd to the Conſideration of both Houſes of *Parliament.* *By* John Tutchin, *Gent. Author of the Firſt, Second, and Third Volume of the* Obſervators, *to* Numb. 66. *Price* 6 *d.* Both Sold by *J. How*, at the *Seven Stars*, in *Talbot-Court*, in *Grace-Church-ſtreet.*

BLank Labels for Apothecaries Gallipots, Glaſſes and Drawers, Curiouſly Engraven on a Copper-Plate, and Printed on *Paper* Imitating Gold, and is not Inferiour to Painting and Gilding. They are likewiſe uſeful for *Druggiſts, Diſtillers, Grocers, Ironmongers, Confectioners*, and all other Perſons that uſe either Gallipots Glaſſes, or Drawers. Directions for *Venice* Treacle-Pots. Titles for Surgeons Cheſts. Titles for *Hungaria-Waters.* Sold by *J. How*, at the *ſeven-ſtars*, in *Talbot-Court*, in *Gracechurch-ſtreet.*

THe Honourable *R. Boyl's* Moſt Excellent Lozenges, ſo much approved of (by Perſons of the higheſt Quality) for their great and admirable Vertues in Curing all Diſtempers of the Lungs, as Colds, Coughs, Rheums, Conſumptions, Ptyſick and Shortneſs of Breath. Price 6 *d.* the Box. Sold by Mr. *Clark*, Bookſeller, at the Corner of *Exchange Alley*, in *Birchin Lane*; Mr. *Garraway*, at the Royal *Exchange Gate*; Mr. *Smith*, Bookſeller, in *Ruſſel ſtreet*, *Covent Garden*; Mr. *Rawſon*, ſtationer, near *Doctors Commons*; Mrs *Fowler*, Milliner, next *Nando's* Coffee Houſe, between the *Temple Gates*; Mr. *Harriſon*, Hoſier, at the Iron Anchor in *Queen ſtreet Bloomsbury*; Mr. *Cooper*, a Cane ſhop at the Corner of *Charles ſtreet* in the *Strand*. And at the Bookſellers ſhop, in the Narrow Paſſage out of *Sherborne-Lane* into *Cannon-Street.*

THIS Notice is given to all Gentlemen and Ladies, that there is Publiſh'd a Paper, Intituled, *The Diverting-Poſt*: From Numb. One to Numb. Seven, to be continued every Saturday. Price 1 *d.* each. Sold by *B. Bragg*, at the *Blue-ball* in *Avemary-Lane.*

London, Printed for the Author, *John Tutchin*, 1704.